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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 31 | Min 20 | Humidity 54% Partly Cloudy Sensex 65,220 | Nifty 19,396 | Gold 58,492 | Silver 71,759 | Dollar 82.95 | Euro 90.14 | GBP 105.76

Class 12 student develops prototype of shoe that has battery, which can get charged when a person walks. This battery can then be used to charge small equipment

THE GOOD SOLE

Teenager wanted to use expertise to help people in rural areas who face long power cuts

Iffath.Fathima
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

“I’ve always been fascinated by how people can create things that make their lives better. Over the course of 18 months, I dedicated my time and expertise and developed this prototype – Samkit Golchha

While many students of class 12 are busy with their heads buried in books for their Boards, here is an inspirational story of a student, who decided to look around instead and create something to change the world!

And the result was a pair of shoes that can do much more than just protect your feet -- it can in fact charge gadgets. Samkit Golchha, a student from TISB School in Bengaluru, is ready with a prototype of chargeable shoe sole called Eco Steps that harnesses the power of piezoelectric (the process of using crystals to convert mechanical energy into electrical energy or vice versa) cells integrated into the sole, allowing it to store the charge generated by energy produced by walking.

Golchha says it is his passion in chemistry and physics coupled with an intense commitment to tackling the earth’s energy crisis that inspired him to come up with the idea of chargeable

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

PRIVATE MATTER

As focus on developing government schools dwindles, private schooling flourishes

PAGE 2

SLIME SLEUTH

Marshals catch vehicle dumping sewage into K-100 waterway’s storm water drain

PAGE 5

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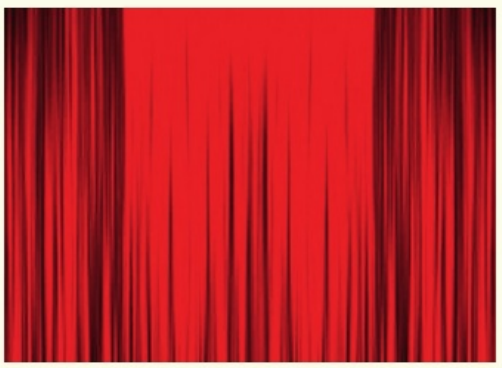
3 THINGS TO DO

01 Celebrate culture

Grab the chance to celebrate the Indo-French International Festival, Namaskara Joie De Vivre 2023, where cultural convergence thrives. Artmantram presents Vasantha Vaikunth: Life Moods and Shades in Dance, an artistic essence of life through movement. Enjoy a mesmerising showcase of dance, emotions, cultures, and spreading joy.
Where: Alliance Francaise
When: Sunday, August 27; 11:30 am



02 Scenes in act

Watch an English play, Skewed, unfold at one of the most well-known theatre platforms in the city on Sunday. The play is presented by Fourth Wall Theatre and is directed by Mahesh SP. It is written by Mahesh SP, Vilok V Kowsik, Arvindh S Kumar, and Gayathri Narayan. The music arrangement is done by Abhimanyu Bhupathi.
Where: Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield
When: Sunday, August 27; 3:30 pm and 7:30 pm

03 Comic Con is here

Don't miss on booking the tickets of Comic Con India's 11 edition, set to happen in November this year. Comic Con India also announced passes for its fans with super-charged surprises. At the event, interact with characters, explore artist alleys, and join exclusive panels.
Where: KTPO Trade Center , Whitefield
When: November 17, 18 and 19; passes available at www.comicconindia.com

A dwindling presence

Number of govt schools plummets; during 2019–20 to 2022–23, dept approves 2,949 private schools, while just 135 govt schools okayed in state in same period

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

The lack of focus on developing government schools in the state has resulted in a growing preference for private schools. Over the past four years, the number of government schools has witnessed a decline, raising concerns about the state's commitment to bolstering public education. Furthermore, the Department of School Education's seemingly indifferent approach has allowed the proliferation of private schools, exacerbating the issue.

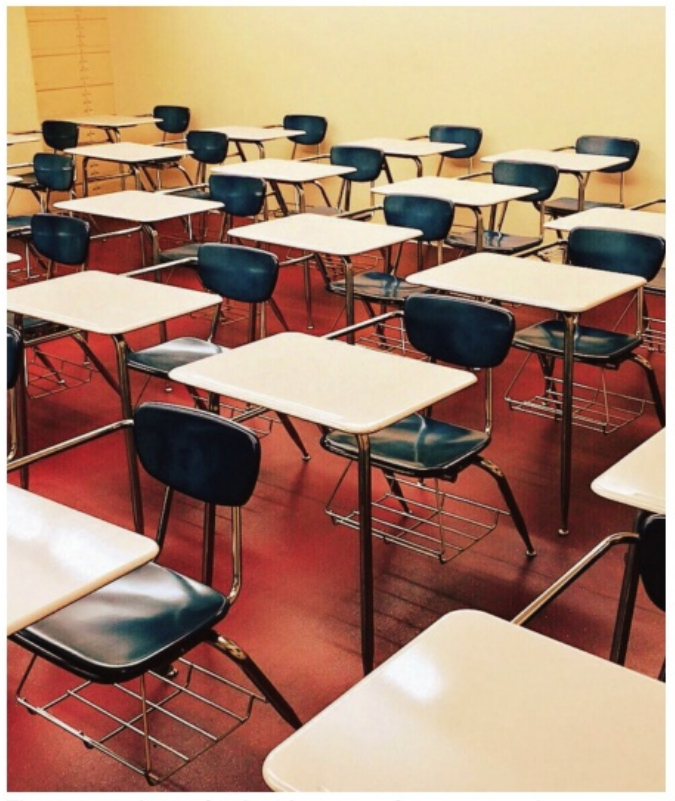
During the period from 2019–20 to 2022–23, the Department of School Education approved a staggering 2,949 private schools, encompassing both primary and secondary institutions. In stark contrast, the number of government schools approved during the same period was a mere 135. These statistics indicate a worrisome trend where private schools continue to flourish while government schools struggle to survive.

In 2019–20, the state had 50,066 government schools, but by 2023, this number is projected to decrease to 47,471. In contrast, the number of private schools has experienced significant growth, reaching 17,350 in the state. The Education Department faces an annual deluge of 400–500 applications seeking permission to open private schools, of which 300–350 are approved each year.

This process has raised eyebrows, as it appears to be a lucrative opportunity for some officials to benefit from registered fees and alleged bribes. Meanwhile, D Shashi Kumar, General Secretary of the Associated Management of English Medium Schools (KAMS), stressed the importance of adopting a scientific approach when granting permission to open schools, taking into account the potential impact on overall education quality.

Kumar stated, "The Education Department should carefully assess the demand and necessity for new schools, ensuring that education standards are not compromised in the pursuit of quantity."

An educationist said, "Regulating private schools has emerged as a pressing concern, given the increase in reported incidents of violence against students in some private institutions. Despite these issues, the Education Department's response has been limited to issuing notices, leading to frustration among parents and advocates. Former Education Minister Tanveer Seth had pledged not to grant permission to private schools during the Congress government's tenure but later permitted many schools before his term's end, raising questions about the consistency of decisions."



The process has raised eyebrows, as it appears to be a profitable method for officials to benefit from alleged bribes

> **"Regulating private schools has emerged as a pressing concern, given the increase in reported incidents of violence against students** –an educationist

Students to watch Chandrayaan landing

Meanwhile, schools are being asked to make arrangements so that they can watch the Chandrayaan-3 finale scheduled for Wednesday evening. The Central Board of Secondary Education's (CBSE) Director (Academics), Dr Joseph Emmanuel, said India's pursuit of space exploration is on the verge of a remarkable milestone, with the impending Chandrayaan-3 mission poised to achieve a landing on the moon. This marks not only a quantum step forward for Indian science, engineering, technology, and industry but also for brand India. This event will be broadcast live today, starting at 5:20 pm.
He added that the landing of India's Chandrayaan-3 on the moon is a monumental occasion that will not only fuel curiosity but also spark a passion for exploration within the minds of our youth. It will generate a profound sense of pride and unity as we collectively celebrate the prowess of Indian science and technology. It will contribute to fostering an environment of scientific inquiry and innovation. In view of the above, the schools may make arrangements for students and teachers on Wednesday (wherever feasible) to witness the live streaming of Chandrayaan-3 landing on the moon. For the remaining schools, the same could be shown on Thursday. Further, the students and teachers may watch it from home as well.
Meanwhile, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has also asked higher education institutions to create awareness among students to watch the landing.

Smooth steps ahead: Robotic-assisted surgeries

City doctors assert that robotic knee replacement surgery surpasses traditional surgical methods.

Dr Sunil G Kini (Senior Consultant, Orthopaedics and Robotic Joint Replacement Surgery, Manipal Hospitals, Old Airport Road) explained, "Robotic-assisted surgical procedures are no longer a distant vision, thanks to healthcare advancements. Robotic knee surgery offers heightened precision compared to traditional methods. It empowers skilled surgeons to navigate intricate anatomical structures more accurately, aligning the leg better and achieving improved soft tissue balance around the knee."

He added that by utilising minimally invasive incisions, robotic-assisted surgery enhances safety with reduced tissue damage, leading to fewer scars, decreased infection risks, shorter hospital stays, and quicker recovery. The diminished manipulation of soft tissues in robotic procedures results in less patient discomfort and fewer post-surgery pain medications. Patients

are mobilised within hours after surgery, and they often report a more natural knee feel due to uniform tissue tension throughout the movement range. Rapid recovery and pre-operative function restoration are hallmarks of robotic surgery.

Furthermore, Dr Kini advised patients against sitting cross-legged or squatting on the floor routinely, as it imposes excessive stress on the implant-bone surface, potentially affecting implant longevity. Most patients return to normal daily activities within about 3 weeks, significantly faster than the 6-week period associated with conventional surgery. **— BMB**

Deadly roads of E-City

With 109 accidents in 6 months of 2023, area has turned most dangerous in traffic south zone

Ahna Prakash
c-ahna.prakash
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Electronics City is turning out to be a major accident hotspot with at least one road accident every two days. According to the latest traffic police data, 109 accidents have been reported in Electronics City in six months of 2023.

On an average, 18 accidents occur every month in the area. As of now, 21 people have been killed in road accidents in Electronics City in 2023. The rate of fatal accidents has also increased from last year. In 2022, the area recorded 26 fatal accidents in 12 months, however, this year in just six months, the area has touched the 20-fatal-accidents mark.

The data also highlights that 103 people got injured in road accidents this year, making the area one of the deadliest roads in the traffic south zone.

In another such incident, on Monday night, a container truck collided with a goods vehicle on the Electronics City flyover, leaving one person dead and two others hurt. A case has been filed at the Electronics City Traffic Police Station.

According to the police, the truck rammed into a broken-down goods vehicle from behind while it was being towed under the flyover around 11.30 pm, killing a man there and then. The deceased's identification has not yet been determined.

Police had to rip up the car to free the injured men, who were trapped inside the wreckage.

Harish, the driver of the goods vehicle, and Mansoor, the driver of the truck, are the injured. They are receiving treatment at the hospital.

The accident caused the vehicles to be stuck on the road for more than an hour, which caused a traffic bottleneck. After the cops removed the two vehicles, only then could the traffic move.

Pranay Dubey, of E-City Rising, told BM that the main reason behind a large number of accidents is rash driving in the area. He added that there are certain specific locations where a maximum of the accidents take place.

> **"One of the scariest areas is the elevated highway, as there have been instances where bikes have collided with cars and biker has fallen off the highway**

"There are specific pockets in Electronics City where minor and major road accidents keep on happening. One of the scariest areas is the elevated highway, as there have been instances where bikes have collided with cars and the biker has fallen off the highway. The authorities should not allow bikes on the highway. The other areas include, places where the metro work is going on, and the road that connects to NICE Road, which also seems to be accident prone," said Dubey.

Reportedly, from Monday morning to Tuesday morning, 14 major accidents occurred in different parts of Bengaluru. In these, four deaths were recorded in accidents involving various vehicles such as bikes, cars, canters, and autos. Besides, more than 15 people are hospitalised with serious and minor injuries in these road accidents.

Electric pole falls on, injures student

A female student was electrocuted when an electricity pole fell on her at Suddaguntepalya police station limits on Tuesday. The incident occurred when the girl was returning from college. Others present at the surrounding stores also reported that they had experienced electric shocks. The local police took the young woman to a nearby hospital by the local police and she is currently receiving treatment.

According to police officials, the girl's condition is stable and she is being watched over. She is receiving treatment for severe burns.

Following the incident, the electricity department disconnected electricity in the area. **BMB**

Whither Information Commissioner?

The High Court on Tuesday issued notice to the state government on a public interest litigation (PIL) regarding the pending vacancy for an Information Commissioner in Belagavi and over Kalaburagi's Information Commissioner functioning not from the designated place but from Bengaluru.

The PIL filed by advocate Sudha Katwa was heard by Division Bench Chief Justice Prasanna B Varale and Justice MGS Kamal. The PIL claimed that Information Commissioner Ravindara Dhakappa, appointed for the Kalaburagi Bench, has been functioning from Bengaluru -- which is a hardship for the people. As far as the Belagavi bench is concerned, one post of Information Commissioner has been pending since April 2022.

"Due to non-appointment of Information Commissioner at Belagavi and also non-shifting of Bench at Kalaburgi, the objects of the RTI Act are defeated. The victims of this North Karnataka (district) have to travel all the way to Bengaluru just to attend the hearing which is attributable to the negligence of the Government," the PIL says. **PTI**

'Hope it stays so': Auto drivers on Namma Yatri's nominal subscription fee

Rachana Ramesh
c-rachana.ramesh
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Namma Yatri, a city-based mobility application that has garnered much positive response from auto drivers as well as customers due to its no commission policy, has revealed that it would be introducing a subscription model from September 1.

Namma Yatri's community-led, open platform has received a loyal following, making it one among the giants in the ride-hailing aggregator business. As the application scales up, it is transitioning from being a CSR initiative of Juspay to a self-sustaining initiative. To ensure the sustainability of its innovative direct-to-driver model, the app has introduced the nominal subscription fee.

It is offering two subscription plans tailored to drivers' preferences. The 'daily unlimited' plan costing Rs 25 per day allows unlimited rides, with the first ride being free. Alternatively, the 'daily per trip' plan charges Rs 3.50 per trip for up to 10 trips daily, with rides beyond that being free.

Both plans are fundamentally different from the commission-based model and offer substantial cost savings for drivers compared to traditional aggregators. Prior to Namma Yatri, one of the biggest complaints raised by auto drivers in the city was high commission rates (30%) being charged by other applications.

Muniswamy, an auto driver who often plys around in the Vasanth Nagar area, said, "The no-commission model has helped our community. We understand that the application requires funds to sustain itself and hence needs to introduce a subscription fee. In comparison to other aggregators, the rates are much cheaper and affordable."

However, Muniswamy is wary of the rates being increased gradually in the future. "They had said that a no-commission policy would be followed but now we are having to pay a subscription fee, though it is very minimal. We hope that the rates remain the same and the application does not change its agenda to become profitable," he added.

Another auto driver, Padmanabh, said that as long as the application continues to grow its customer base, auto drivers will continue to subscribe without hesitation. "If the customer base dwindles, we will be forced to rely on other applications and revert back to paying high commission rates," he said.

About the development, Shan MS, Chief Growth Officer of Juspay, said, "The subscription model enables our continued service and facilitates future welfare programs for drivers. Within a week of launching these plans, over 35,000 drivers have opted in, with 7,500 completing the subscription process organically.

Official fee collection begins on September 1, with Namma Yatri committed to maintaining this fee structure for one year and actively exploring further price reductions in the future."

The announcement comes while Namma Yatri is celebrating its drivers collectively earning more than Rs 100 crore without paying any stipulated commission amount. The application built in partnership with Bengaluru's auto drivers by Juspay Technologies has a community of 89,000+ drivers and is currently serving over 17 lakh customers.

Digging discontent: Newly paved path pulled apart

Residents rally for road restoration amidst BWSSB pipeline controversy

| Iffath Fathima
Iffath.Fathima@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) dug up the recently laid Vajarahalli 100 feet road on Monday evening to lay the Cauvery fifth stage third phase pipeline, which enraged the residents. The occupants of the Sobha Forest View apartment intervened by engaging with the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), which resulted in work suspension. However, the work resumed on Tuesday, leading to significant discontent among residents as the newly paved road degraded.

Residents had been consistently communicating with BDA officials to restore the road. Their persistent appeals led to road tarring, but within a short span of three months, the road was dug up once more. The residents alleged that the contractor carrying out the work was as well in a drunk state and had damaged portions of the footpath and other parts of the road where there was no requirement of laying an underground pipeline.

Kiran Kumar, President of Sobha Forest View, said, When we enquired with the contractor on Monday evening on who had given them permission for digging the road they had no idea. We contacted the BDA officials and they spoke to the BWSSB officials and stopped the digging. The BDA officials stated that they hadn't given any permission. On Tuesday BWSSB continued with their work. The entry and exit gate of the apartment was left blocked with traffic accumulating on one side of the stretch as the other side is undertaken with road works. "

Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board dug up the recently laid Vajarahalli 100 feet road to lay the Cauvery fifth stage third phase pipeline which enraged the residents as the works damaged the road

VK Srivatsa, Secretary of Changemakers of Kanakpura road association said, "The road was dug up in places where it wasn't needed to be dug. The footpath also was damaged. When we spoke to the contractor he could hardly stand and communicate like he was in a drunk state. If the department keeps digging the newly laid roads like then then what should the residents do? We want the road to be restored or we will file an FIR against the authority."

Since the road was once again dug up, the residents had no choice but to rally for official commitment to restoration. They persistently communicated with both BDA and BWSSB officials. On Tuesday evening the BDA official visited the spot. "We have asked the BWSSB to stop the work until an undertaking is given by the executive engineer BWSSB so that the road is to be brought to its original condition," said Gangadhar, Assistant Executive Engineer, BDA.

"The road was dug up in places where it wasn't needed to be dug. We want the road to be restored or we will file an FIR against the authority – VK Srivasta

When BM contacted the BWSSB executive engineer, Deepak, he said, "This is a project of 2019. The total length of the pipeline to be laid is 56 km. It is for laying a Cauvery fifth stage third phase water pipeline for 110 villages. But during the election, the BDA asphalted the route and even the pipeline laying route was asphalted. We had the approvals earlier to carry out the pipeline work. This is the main line of Thorekadanahalli at Kanakpura where water is given to 110 villages. So far we have completed 53 km and we have 3 km pending of the project which we will have to complete by September 30, 2023. We will cut the road and lay the pipeline and after the work, we will have the road restored"

However, the repeated efforts of residents were given in a letter by the BWSSB that the road will be restored after the work. "This is to undertake that all the cut surfaces, asphalt, plain concrete, RCC will be brought to the original condition after the completion of the laying of pipes and after the desired compaction of the pipeline trenches is achieved. " said the official order.

Poorly restored road to Munnekollal Lake irks commuters

| Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Commuters are complaining about the dug-up road leading to Munnekollal Lake on Spice Garden Road, which has remained in poor condition for nearly a year. The road was excavated for BWSSB work but was never restored.

For almost a year, residents in the vicinity of Spice Garden Road have been grappling with deteriorating conditions. After a few rain showers, the road transforms into a miniature lake. However, officials attribute the situation to technical difficulties, while residents blame the lack of concern from officials.

"The service road near Spice Garden that leads to Munnekollal Lake was dug up a year ago. The road's condition has become extremely terrible, and even light rainfall makes commuting nearly impossible. During rainy spells, the road gets completely flooded. Officials have been citing excuses related to the demolition of a building. The lake used to be so beautiful, and we used to visit it daily, but now it's become extremely challenging," explained Vijayan, a resident of the area.

The poor condition of the road leading to Munnekollal Lake that was never restored

Residents say that the road's condition was far from ideal even before, but the excavation carried out for BWSSB work has exacerbated the problem. They emphasise the need for a fully paved road to facilitate smooth travel through the area. Residents claim to have been in touch with the MLA's office, but their efforts have yielded no results. "I've communicated with the MLA's assistant, but there hasn't been any action taken," added Vijayan.

Another commuter informed BM that Spice Garden is a blend of commercial and residential properties, but the condition of the road is causing significant inconvenience. "The road has been in this state for quite some time now. It's completely broken and impassable. The road isn't dotted with potholes; rather, the entire road is one giant pothole. During rainfall, the road gets inundated, blocking vehicular passage. Due to numerous commercial establishments, there's rampant unauthorized parking as well. Besides the road's poor state, the rise of PG accommodations has increased vehicle traffic," said the commuter.

In a video that went viral, a netizen pointed out that the road featured 40 potholes within a 200-meter stretch.On June 18, 2023, BBMP planned a stormwater drain eviction drive, intending to demolish certain properties in Spice Garden Layout, Munnekollal. However, Palike officials were unsuccessful in their attempt as residents produced a High Court stay order.

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Problems in your area?
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Traffic obstacle

Majestic

A barricade near Hotel Maruya, near Race Course Loop, appears to be inadequately positioned, causing a bottleneck.

Roadblock riddles

Gandhinagar

Unwanted barricades at Gandhinagar's 2nd Cross, opposite Shinde Eye Care, are creating a chicane, frustrating motorists seeking smooth traffic flow.

Lift delay

Kengeri

The pedestrian overpass at Kengeri Bus Terminal is open for use, but, there are pending lift works that require attention and completion.

Time to restore encroached rajakaluve

Iffath Fathima
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

During the middle of last year, the residents of Manna Tropical Apartment in Sarjapur filed an RTI to get information on the rajakaluve encroachment in localities like Doddakannelli, Chikkanayakanahalli, and Halanayakanahalli. After the RTI, a survey was carried out by the KR Puram tahsildar office, and it was revealed that many of the properties had encroached upon the rajakaluve, resulting in frequent flooding of the areas.

While the survey was carried out last year and the report was given in June last year, no action was taken by the revenue department of Karnataka to analyse and check upon the situation to carry out the removal of encroachments.

The residents stated that despite the large number of lands having encroached upon the land, as shown in the survey report, wherein 50 plus survey numbers have been found to have encroached upon the land, yet no action has been taken to clear the encroachments.

Arif Mudgal, a resident of Manna Tropical Apartment, said, "As there was frequent flooding in areas like Chikkanayakanahalli and Halnayakanahalli, we decided to file an RTI. After doing a lot of research and finding out from some of the older residents living in the nearby places for 40 plus years, we came to know that a rajakaluve had existed. Then I took up the decision to file an RTI. After the RTI, a survey was carried out by officials, and it was found through the report that rajakaluve was encroached in Varthur Hobli, Doddakannelli, Tinalli Hadosiddapura, Chikkanayakanahalli, and Halanayakanahalli. The report stated that, as per the map, the canal is passing through the survey number, and it has been found to be encroached."

Residents of apartment complex file RTI to get more information on rajakaluve encroachment, follow it up with survey

However, with no action taken, the residents are questioning the authorities about their lack of interest in keeping the city free of floods.

"Only in the last few years have we seen rampant flooding in the city. With development and major projects coming in, the storm water drains, or rajakaluve, have been getting encroached, and as the free flow of water gets hindered, it results in

overflow. Despite the fact that we residents followed up on the issue and got the authorities' attention on the encroachment, no action has been taken," said Praveen, another resident. With no support from the authorities, the residents have decided to meet Krishna Byre Gowda, Revenue Minister, Karnataka, to highlight the issue.

Sleuths stop slime crime

BBMP Marshals managed to stop sewage suction truck in its tracks as it was doing dirty business at K-100 site

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Dirty water in the storm water drain; BBMP South Zone Superintendent of Marshals Somasekhara Patil seizing the sewage suction truck

The Koramangala Valley Storm Water Drain aka K-100 is considered to be one of the best projects taken up by Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). But, that hasn't stopped people from dumping waste into the waterway that commences from Majestic area and culminates at Bellandur Lake. Now, BBMP marshals have caught some offenders red-handed.

Based on credible information, BBMP marshals kept a vigil on sludge tanker trucks and managed to catch a sewage suction truck (KA 04 AC 2750) as it was releasing dirty water into the storm water drain.

"Chickpet Division BBMP Marshals supervisor Yeshwant caught the sewage suction truck driver while it was releasing the dirty water into the storm water drain near Shanti Nagar. I instructed him to seize the vehicle and bring it to the BBMP Head Office," said BBMP Marshals South Zone Superintendent Somasekhara Patil.

Patil said the Marshals caught two tanker drivers a few months ago for releasing dirty water into the storm water drain near Ejipura and Sony World Junction on the Inner Ring Road. "We collected Rs 25,000 as a penalty from vehicle owners," he said.

Appreciating the Marshal's quick action, citizens sought the BBMP to intensify vigil on sludge tanker trucks and sewage suction trucks that are allegedly polluting storm water drains.

"Many of us blame the BBMP for polluted storm water drains but are not aware that these storm water drains are polluted by some greedy and irresponsible sewage suction truck drivers," said Umesh S, a resident of Wilson Garden.

Bangalore Mirror has been following the mucky trail with its stories—No questions asked, it is a sludge fest—on August 12, narrating how sludge from the construction site of Namma Metro near Dairy Circle is being let into roadside drain near IIMB on Bannerghatta Road; they dump human poop in storm water drains—on December 12, 2019, narrating how septic tank cleaners were seen disposing of sewage in a drain near HBR Layout on the Outer Ring Road; and Caught in the act: Residents, KSPCB marshal manage to catch tanker driver dumping chemical effluents in RR Nagar—on December 12, 2020.

Niveditha Sunkad, who played a key role to start Save Vrishabhavathi Nadi campaign, said the industries contract out their wastes, and contractors save money by dumping it freely in the city's waterways while the KSPCB sleeps.

"Government keeps spending crores of tax-payers' money to treat the city's sewage, but who will take this bull by the horn? And when will these insensitive dumps be addressed? Citizens have put their lives in danger to catch such offenders but KSPCB goes silent every time. Neither are FIRs properly filed nor are the offenders punished. It is high time for the Ministry of Environment to take some serious action and contain this health hazard," Sunkad said.

Arun Prasad, a resident of Wilson Garden, said that the National Green Tribunal (NGT) had given clear directions to the Karnataka

> **"Government keeps spending crores of tax payers' money to treat the city's sewage, but who will take this bull by the horn?**
>
> –Niveditha Sunkad

State Pollution Control Board and BBMP and BWSSB that under no circumstances sewage water and industrial effluents are directly discharged into the storm water drains.

"We noticed yesterday that water flowing in the Shanti Nagar storm water drain had turned red though lakhs of rupees are spent for its beautification to carry clean rain water only. The authorities have to file criminal cases against culprits for damaging the environment," informed Prasad.

The authorities have allocated Rs 180 crore for the K-100 project that began in March 2021 and is expected to complete by March 2023. However, the K-100 project missed the deadline of March 2023 and it is expected to be completed by next year.

IN BRIEF

Man dies by suicide near police station

On Monday, a 43-year-old driver is said to have died by suicide within the boundaries of the Pulikeshi Nagar police station. The deceased has been identified as Jemon Varghese, of Kerala's Kottayam. He was residing in the staff quarters of a posh apartment block on Mosque Road in Frazer Town. The event happened on Monday at the terrace of the complex's washroom.

Gayathri G Gopal, who owned an apartment in the building, hired Varghese as her driver. Due to some restoration work, Gayathri recently moved into an apartment in the same neighbourhood and gave Varghese the keys.

When she went back to get her belongings, she found that they had been stolen from the safe, along with valuables including gold, diamonds, and other jewellery weighing about 250 gram. The missing articles are estimated to be worth a total of Rs 15 lakh.

Later, she filed a police complaint against three of her domestic helpers, including the deceased. He was called for police interrogation, and there was a rumour that he committed suicide due to police harassment. However, Deputy Commissioner of Police Bheemashankar S Guled said that no policeman was mentioned in the suicide note and the police didn't harass the deceased. **BMB**

Lokayukta raids survey supervisor

On August 22, Lokayukta authorities examined 14 properties belonging to a survey supervisor in and around Bengaluru and discovered disproportionate assets totaling several crores.

T Srinivasa Murthy, the official, is employed by the KR Puram taluk office. He is the owner of two sites, a house under construction, and five liquor stores. The documents for assets registered in his family's names were discovered, according to Lokayukta police authorities.

The worth of Murthy's moveable and immovable assets is being determined by the officials. **BMB**

What's on K'taka's plate? Ninth rank in food safety

FSSAI measures performance across various parameters and state has done a delicious job

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
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Watch your plate, does it have food from ten different states on it? Then definitely you will find Karnataka on your plate, as our state stands ninth. In a recent assessment by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Karnataka has been ranked ninth among large states in terms of food safety. The state food safety index, developed by FSSAI, aims to measure states' performance across various parameters related to food safety. This index is based on the performance of State/UT on five significant parameters, namely, human resources and institutional data, compliance, food testing – infrastructure and surveillance, training and capacity building and consumer empowerment. The index is a dynamic quantitative and qualitative benchmarking model that provides an objective framework for evaluating food safety across all states and union territories.

In the category of Human Resources and Institutional Data, Karnataka secured a ranking of 7.5, which positions it at the 9th spot. The assessment focuses on evaluating the availability and quality of human and institutional resources dedicated to implementing food safety measures. Karnataka achieved a ranking of 11 in this parameter, showcasing its commitment to adhering to food safety regulations and guidelines. While not the top performer, Karnataka's compliance efforts are still commendable. In the area of food testing infrastructure, Karnataka achieved a ranking of 5.5, placing it in the ninth position. This category evaluates the state's capacity to conduct reliable and timely food testing, a critical aspect of ensuring food safety. Regarding training and capacity building, Karnataka achieved a ranking of six, landing it in the seventh position. This category looks at the state's efforts to enhance the knowledge and skills of its personnel involved in food safety.

Lastly, in the category of consumer education and empowerment, Karnataka secured a ranking of nine. This parameter assesses the state's efforts in educating and empowering consumers regarding matters related to food safety. Among the large states, six states have performed better than Karnataka in the overall assessment. These states are Gujarat, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh. While Karnataka's performance in these categories is commendable, there are areas for improvement to ensure the highest level of food safety and consumer protection in the state.

According to the report, FSSAI evaluated states' performance based on data from the last financial year. While some parameters may be subject to modifications based on the latest activities and initiatives of FSSAI and other unforeseen topics, the core parameters remain consistent.

> **"The food safety parameters are broadly classified under significant factors, separate marking for each factor**
>
> –FSSAI report

"The evaluation sheets of each State/UT were reviewed by an Evaluation Committee, which was formed specifically for analysing the performance. The general scores and performance parameters were discussed with States/UTs in the CAC meeting prior to the release of the index. The ranking of States/UTs was generated using validated data and the scoring parameters." added the report.

Cauvery River protest: Over 50 farmers detained

Over 50 farmers, who were protesting against the release of water from the Cauvery River to Tamil Nadu and attempted to block the Bengaluru-Mysuru highway, were detained by Karnataka police on Tuesday.

The farmers on bullock carts and tractors gathered near Induvalu village and attempted to enter the highway from the service road.

The police prevented them and tried to convince them. However, the farmers got into an argument with the police personnel and started raising slogans against Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar.

> **Protesters gathered on bullock carts and tractors and attempted to block Bengaluru-Mysuru highway**

The police detained more than 50 farmers and took them away in buses. The protesters claimed that the state government is quelling the movement of farmers. They also slammed the Congress government and termed it "anti-farmer".

The farm organisations have also demanded that the detained farmers should be immediately released and the release of water to Tamil Nadu should be stopped.

The protesters alleged that the Karnataka government has already released 80,000 cusecs of water to Tamil Nadu. They expressed their outrage against Tamil Nadu for approaching the Supreme Court even as their share of water is settled by the tribunal.

After this development, Karnataka has released 11,000 cusecs of water at a time when the crops in the state are dying without water, the protesters said. Only 2,000 cusecs of water have been released in Karnataka, the farmers alleged. **— IANS**

Class 11 student takes medical camps to govt schools

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A medical camp organised at Ramagondanahalli Government School

To ensure good health for children studying at government schools, a student of a private school began organising medical camps to improve the health and well-being of children studying at government schools. He named it CareForAll, a non-governmental organisation to provide healthcare awareness for more than 1,000 children studying at government schools.

"We do this through medical camps for the general public, along with awareness sessions where we educate children on effective and simple hygiene techniques and adults on beneficial government schemes that they are oblivious to, and we help them register in the sessions," said Arnav Aggarwal.

Aggarwal said that CareForAll (CFA) has organised medical camps at government schools reaching out to around 600 students.

"Since we are well beyond surpassing our goal and recognise how CFA has been able to impact quite a few locally, we wanted to bring awareness to the initiative in efforts to push it towards a state-wide and nation-wide initiative that would help plenty more," he said.

He said the volunteers of CFA are organising medical camps by mobilising funds and by working in collaboration with esteemed medical professionals from prominent hospitals like Sakra World Hospital and Ramaiah Medical College, also partnering with well-known NGOs. "The CFA has been able to impact over 600 lives so far through medical camps and awareness sessions (where they educate individuals on their well-being, and simple, effective hygiene techniques; recently, also on beneficial government schemes) funding all the expenses through fundraisers, donations, and hospital collaborations. Recently CFA conducted a medical camp, entailing general health check-ups, at Ramagondanahalli Government School for 300 children," he said.

> **We do this through medical camps for the general public, along with awareness sessions where we educate kids on hygiene**
>
> –Arnay Aggarwal

Michael Jones, grade coordinator at Inventure Academy, said that it is refreshing to see a young individual make a real impact in a world. "With a heart full of compassion and a drive to create positive change, Arnav has taken the initiative to address various issues within our community. From creating awareness to supporting underprivileged members with health and hygiene CFA is truly inspiring," said Michael Jones.

HEALTH TIP: Ginger tea is an age-old natural remedy for innumerable digestive issues, including acid reflux

Dates are packed with fibre, potassium, magnesium, iron and vitamins including folate, vitamin K and vitamin B6

BangaloreMirror | 7
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BE FREE, BE REAL

Existentialists believe we should embrace freedom and authenticity to live a good life

How do we live good, fulfilling lives?

Aristotle first took on this question in his Nicomachean Ethics – arguably the first time anyone in Western intellectual history had focused on the subject as a standalone question. He formulated a teleological response to the question of how we ought to live. Aristotle proposed, in other words, an answer grounded in an investigation of our purpose or ends (telos) as a species.

Our purpose, he argued, can be uncovered through a study of our essence – the fundamental features of what it means to be human.

Ends and essences

"Every skill and every inquiry, and similarly every action and rational choice, is thought to aim at some good;" Aristotle states, "and so the good has been aptly described as that at which everything aims."

To understand what is good, and therefore what one must do to achieve the good, we must first understand what kinds of things we are. This will allow us to determine what a good or a bad function actually is.

For Aristotle, this is a generally applicable truth. Take a knife, for example. We must first understand what a knife is in order to determine what would constitute its proper function. The essence of a knife is that it cuts; that is its purpose. We can thus make the claim that a blunt knife is a bad knife – if it does not cut well, it is failing in an important sense to properly fulfil its function. This is how essence relates to function, and how fulfilling that function entails a kind of goodness for the thing in question.

Of course, determining the function of a knife is much easier than determining the function of Homo sapiens, and therefore what good, fulfilling lives might involve for us as a species.

Aristotle argues that our function must be more than growth, nutrition and reproduction, as plants are also capable of this. Our function must also be more than perception, as non-human animals are capable of this. He thus proposes that our essence – what makes us unique – is that humans are capable of reasoning.

What a good, flourishing human life involves, therefore, is "some kind of practical life of that part that has reason". This is the starting point of Aristotle's ethics.

It is only by living a life of "virtuous activity in accordance with reason", a life in which we flourish and fulfil the functions that flow from a deep understanding of and appreciation for what defines us, that we can achieve eudaimonia – the highest human good.

Existence over essence

Aristotle's answer was so influential that it shaped the development of Western values for millennia. Thanks to philosophers and theologians such as Thomas Aquinas, his enduring influence can be traced through the medieval period to the Renaissance and on to the Enlightenment.

During the Enlightenment, the dominant philosophical and religious traditions, which included Aristotle's work, were reexamined in light of new Western principles of thought.

Beginning in the 18th century, the Enlightenment era saw the birth of modern science, and with it the adoption of the principle nullius in verba – literally, "take nobody's word for it" – which became the motto of the Royal Society. There was a corresponding proliferation of secular approaches to understanding the nature of reality and, by extension, the way we ought to live our lives.

One of the most influential of these secular philosophies was existentialism. In the 20th century, Jean-Paul Sartre, a key figure in existentialism, took up the challenge of thinking about the meaning of life without recourse to theology.

Sartre argued that Aristotle, and those who followed in Aristotle's footsteps, had it all back-to-front.

Existentialists see us as going about our lives making seemingly endless choices. We choose what we wear, what we say, what careers we follow, what we believe. All of these choices make up who we are. Sartre summed up this principle in the formula "existence precedes essence".

The existentialists teach us that we are completely free to invent ourselves, and therefore completely responsible for the identities we choose to adopt. "The first effect of existentialism," Sartre wrote in his 1946 essay Existentialism is a Humanism, "is that it puts every man in possession of himself as he is, and places the entire responsibility for his existence squarely upon his own shoulders."

Crucial to living an authentic life, the existentialists would say, is recognising that we desire freedom above everything else. They maintain we ought never to deny the fact we are fundamentally free. But they also acknowledge we have so much choice about what we can be and what we can do that it is a source of anguish. This anguish is a felt sense of our profound responsibility.

The existentialists shed light on an important phenomenon: we all convince ourselves, at some point and to some extent, that we are "bound by external circumstances" in order to escape the anguish of our inescapable freedom. Believing we possess a predefined essence is one such external circumstance.

But the existentialists provide a range of other psychologically revealing examples. Sartre tells a story of watching a waiter in a cafe in Paris. He observes that the waiter moves a little too precisely, a little too quickly, and seems a little too eager to impress. Sartre believes the waiter's exaggeration of waiter-hood is an act – that the waiter is deceiving himself into being a waiter. In doing so, argues Sartre, the waiter denies his authentic self. He has opted instead to assume the identity of something other than a free being.

An authentic life

Contrary to Aristotle's conception of eudaimonia, the existentialists regard acting authentically as the highest good. This means never acting in such a way that denies we are free. When we make a choice, that choice must be fully ours. We have no essence; we are nothing but what we make for ourselves.

We all have feelings and questions about the meaning and purpose of our lives, and it is not as simple as picking a side between the Aristotelians, the existentialists, or any of the other moral traditions. In his essay, That to Study Philosophy is to Learn to Die (1580), Michel de Montaigne finds what is perhaps an ideal middle ground. He proposes "the premeditation of death is the premeditation of liberty" and that "he who has learnt to die has forgot what it is to be a slave".

In his typical style of jest, Montaigne concludes: "I want death to take me planting cabbages, but without any careful thought of him, and much less of my garden's not being finished."

Perhaps Aristotle and the existentialists could agree that it is just in thinking about these matters – purposes, freedom, authenticity, mortality – that we overcome the silence of never understanding ourselves. To study philosophy is, in this sense, to learn how to live.

(By Oscar Davis, Bond University, The Conversation)

All you need to know about...

Aspirin a day

Saviour aspirin
Heart attack patients who do not take daily aspirin are more likely to have a repeat myocardial infarction, stroke, or death than those who take the drug consistently, a new study said on Tuesday.

Prevents clot
According to the study presented at ESC (European Society of Cardiology) Congress 2023, aspirin is mandatory following a heart attack due to its ability to prevent blood clot formation, and thus reduce the risk of a new heart attack or stroke.

Do as prescribed
"Our findings suggest that not taking aspirin as prescribed after a heart attack is linked to a higher risk of having another heart attack, a stroke or dying," said study author Dr Anna Meta Kristensen of Bispebjerg and Frederiksberg Hospital, Denmark.

The study
The study used data from Danish nationwide health registries, including patients aged 40 years and over who had a first-time heart attack from 2004 through 2017, were treated with a coronary stent and took aspirin as prescribed during the first year after their heart attack. Adherence to aspirin was evaluated at two, four, six and eight years after the heart attack.
The proportion of days patients had their pills over the previous two years was used to calculate aspirin adherence at each of the four-time points.

Greater risks
Patients who took aspirin as prescribed were less likely to experience the composite outcome than non-adherent patients at each time point, the study said. Compared with adherent patients, non-adherent patients had a 29%, 40%, 31% and 20% higher likelihood of recurrent heart attack, stroke or death at two, four, six and eight years following the heart attack, respectively. —IANS

One step ahead

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

shoes for helping the people in rural areas.

He told BM about his journey.

"I had a vision for solving environmental issues through innovative means around two years ago. I've always been fascinated by how people can create things that make their lives better. Over the course of 18 months, I dedicated my time and expertise and developed this prototype," he said.

Golchha said he would interact with people in rural areas and had a conversation with a farmer. "The farmer I spoke to told me that they have eight-hour power cuts some days. Their kids are not able to study. My idea was to help the rural population who experience such long power outages. The battery in the shoe can help charge small equipment like lamps or fans without power. Once an individual has put on the shoe and starts to walk, the battery in the shoes starts to charge. This battery can help in charging small equipment like mobile phones, lamps or portable phones without electricity," said Golccha.

According to Golccha, he uses a transducer to convert mechanical energy to electrical energy that is placed in the insole of the shoe. "In Eco Step, you have to use your steps to generate electricity. When you step on, you push down on the shoe cushion and this cushion pushes and expands and it absorbs the energy that we expend by walking. The transducer compresses and charges the battery. Through my research and help from my Physics teacher in school, I came up with this innovation," said Golccha.

The battery is connected on top of the shoe and has a capacity of 5 volts. If a person walks for one kilometre, the battery can get charged up to 3.7 volt.

Golccha carried out the first trials in Mysuru with Ekal Arogya foundation with eight people and observed that the shoe benefitted all the individuals and got positive feedback from them. The charged battery from the shoe was used to charge phones conveniently without power. An iPhone could be charged from 10-42% in a span of about 20 minutes. "This not only reduces our reliance on conventional charging methods but also encourages eco-friendly behaviour by harnessing the energy we naturally produce during our daily activities," he said.

Eco Steps is still not a patented product but it is a first step for Golccha's innovation. When quizzed about the concerns over the safety risk of the device, he said that it was very safe. "The prototype is extremely safe as the wires connected are inside the sole and the battery is connected on top of the shoes so that it does not come in contact with the feet. This apart, the insole can be changed to any shoes and Eco Steps can be used easily. The battery showing up on top of the shoe might be concerning for individuals but as of now it is the safest way and will not cause any inconvenience to the person while they walk," he said.

Going forward, Golccha is working on building a prototype that will help have more battery power that could charge bigger equipment to help individuals.

SC agrees to list plea seeking restoration of criminal charges against Rajinikanth's wife

The Supreme Court on Tuesday agreed to list a plea filed seeking restoration of criminal charges against the wife of superstar Rajinikanth for allegedly diverting money paid to her for post-production of the movie 'Kochadaiiyaan'.

A bench comprising Justices M.M. Sundresh and J.B. Pardiwala directed that the matter will not be deleted on September 8, the next date of listing, when the special leave petition was mentioned by advocates Aman Jha and R.C. Kohli.

The complaint is based on the allegation that Latha Rajinikanth had fraudulently induced the Managing Director of a Chennai-based advertising company to deliver monies under the pretext of post-production cost of the movie. However, she allegedly diverted the money for other purposes thereby causing him wrongful loss.

In its impugned order, the Karnataka High Court partly allowed the plea filed by Latha Rajinikanth and quashed the cognizance taken under Section 196, 199 and 420 of the IPC.

The High Court said that the allegation relating to cheating and dishonestly inducing delivery of property has been recklessly included.

In 2018, the Supreme Court had set aside the order of the Karnataka High Court quashing the FIR in the same dispute, saying that the latter should have allowed the trial to progress.

"We make it clear that...the averments in the complaint constitute a prima facie case for commencement of the trial," it had said, while holding that the dispute had all the prima facie ingredients for being adjudicated by means of a criminal trial. **IANS**

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Mannila Supriya R/a No. 2-275, Ambedhkar Nagar, Narpala, Ananthapuram Andhra Pradesh - 515425. I, state that my correct name is Mannila Supriya as stated in my all documents like aadhar card, pancard and also Bank account. But in my SSC Marks sheet my name is wrongly mentioned as Maneela Supriya. In future in all records my name is mentioned and called as Mannila Supriya only vide affidavait dated 14.8.2023 sworn before notary V Janardhan Andra Pradesh

I Kavitha Venkatesh W/o Venkatesh Reddy Kunjappa R/o, No 613/9, Gf,bethany School Road, Opp Police Station, 8th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru 560095, have changed my name to Kavitha Gajendra Koramangala for all purposes

I, AAYUSH, S/o Jayaprakash N.M R/at Flat No. 001, DS Max, Senorita Apartment, Gidadako nenahalli, Muddinapalya, Bang alore-560091, have changed my name to AAYUSH J P, vide affidavit dated 21.08.2023 before notary Devaraja E, Bangalore.

I Vasudev Reddy S/O Siddanna No-40 NH Nivasa Venus county layout 6th phase Haragadde Jigani Hoobli Anekal Taluk Bangaluru Karnataka 560105, have changed my name to Vasudev Reddy for all future purpose

I, Pruthvi Raj Suresha S/o Suresha H R/o 9, Srinivasa, 8th A cross, CIL layout, Cholanayakanahalli, RT nagar po, Bengaluru 560032 have changed my name to Pruthvi Raja affidavit Dt.22/08/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Vijay Kumar Hosakoti R/o No 129, 12th A Main Road, 7TH A Cross, BTM Layout 1st Stage, B'luru-560029 have changed my name to Vijaya Kumar H Hosakoti vide affidavit dtd 22/08/2023 Notary B S padmaprasad B'luru

I Raghunatha Thirthahalli S/o havangi Sheena Shetty, r/o,no 109/a, Soppugudde, Housing Board Colony, thirthahalli, shivamogga,577432.have Changed My Name to Raghunatha Shetty Thirthahalli, For All Purposes.

I, Rohan Jai s/o Jai Kumar V R/o Flat-303, Srishakthi Residency, Krishna Colony, Mahadevapura, B'luru-560048 have changed my name to Rohan Jai Sequeira affidavit Dt.22/08/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Ambreen Taj W/o Nooruddin Shariff R/o Aayat Mansion No 63 Flat no-402 Green Orchards Sr Krishnappa Garden Bhel layout B'lore-560041 have chan - ged my name to Amreen Taj

I Abhinva Damle S/O, Ashok Damle R/o No 38/b 3rd Main Road Manivilas Garden Vrushabavathinagar Bangalore North, Bangalore, Ka 560079 have changed my name to Abhinav Damle .

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I, KUSUMA HARISH, Residing at No. 25, 8th Cross, Cubbonpet, Bengaluru-560002, have changed my name to KUSUMA HARISSH, vide affidavit dated: 22.08.2023 before Notary R. Basavaraja, Bengaluru.

I, Sushma Subburayan, W/O Subburayan Umapathi, Flat No: C-01, Chitrakut Century Apartments, Sahakar Nagar, Bengaluru - 560092, changed my son's name as Vikramaditya Subburayan.

I, Santosh Nahatha R/o 84/h,4th Main, Hal 3rd Stage, New Thippsandra, Bengaluru 560075 have changed my minor son's name from S Raghav Nahatha to Raaghav Nahataa for all purposes.

I Kishor Ramnadam Boda S/O. Ramnadam Boda R/o No. 20, Second Floor, 4th Main, Sultanpalya, R T Nagar Post, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560032 have changed my name to Kishor Boda.

I Khushi Nikhilkumar Desai D/O, Nikhilkumar Virendrabhai Desai R/o G-101, Aakruthi Silverline, Somasundarapalya, 27th Main Road, Hsr Layout Sector 2, 560102, Bengaluru. have changed my name to Khushi Nikhil Desai.

I Santeeta W/O, Sanjay Kumar.s R/o N0-124,2nd Main,4th Cross,ist Stage,vijayanagar, Mysuru City-570017, have changed my name to Sangita Goyal.

I, Carlisle Dcosta R/o Anagha 4Th Main, Sir Mv Nagar, Rm Nagar, Bangalore -16 have changed my minor daughter's name from Skylar Dcosta to Skylar Carlisle for all purposes

I Hiral Gandhi R/o A6G01 Elita Promenade Jp Nagar 7th Phase have changed my minor son s name from Janam to Janam Jinesh Gandhi.

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Plea against shifting of waste management centre gathers steam

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File photo of the Swatchagraha Kalika Kendra at HSR Layout

The Solid Waste Management Round Table (SWMRT) has began a petition to retain SwachaGraha Kalika Kendra (SGKK), a solid waste management learning centre located in HSR layout, from being relocated to the Karnataka Compost Development Corporation (KCDC) premises.

The petition has urged the Chief Secretary of Karnataka and the Chief Commissioner of the municipal body Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to allow functioning of the centre in HSR layout without relocation. "This petition urges the Chief Secretary of Karnataka and the Chief Commissioner of BBMP to wholeheartedly endorse India's first-of-its-kind SwachaGraha Kalika Kendra. Not only as a community engagement initiative that aids BBMP in raising awareness about solid waste management, but also as a government programme showcasing a commitment to citizen engagement and decentralised waste processing," it says.

SWMRT, in partnership with the HSR Citizen Forum, is responsible for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the facility which was established five years ago in BBMP's HSR Park, Sector 4. The Kalika Kendra has welcomed over 10,000 visitors, providing them with hands-on learning experiences, demonstrations of home and community composting techniques. BBMP has installed a leaf shredding unit, and supplies both wet waste and leaf litter to support composting activities at the centre. Additionally, they provide human resources for composting activities.

The petition notes that according to Chapter IV, Clause 14(4) of the BBMP Bye-Laws, the use of public parks and other suitable locations for establishing decentralised waste processing facilities is addressed. The clause states, "BBMP is obligated to promote in-situ processing of bulk horticulture and garden wastes within parks, gardens, and similar appropriate places whenever feasible. BBMP, either directly or through a designated service provider, is committed to establishing small-scale composting or bio-methanation plants within public parks, playgrounds, recreation areas, gardens, markets, large vacant lands owned and maintained by BBMP, or any other public authority or government department."

MP Tejasvi Surya and MLA Satish Reddy have shown support to the petition by providing letters of endorsement. The HSR Citizen Forum, along with the local Resident Welfare Association (RWA) and community partners, have also expressed their support through written endorsements.

SWMRT has said that it remains dedicated to the development and upkeep of the learning centre. This includes waste processing of up to one tonne per day, conducting outreach and informational campaigns on sustainable waste management practices for schools, colleges, corporations, RWAs and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), as well as offering training programmes for compost workers to create livelihood opportunities.

Police complaint against Prakash Raj for 'objectionable' tweet

Hindu organisations have filed a police complaint against actor and activist Prakash Raj in Bagalkot district of Karnataka for his objectionable tweet on Chandrayaan-3.

The actor had shared a cartoon post of a man serving tea in his vest and lungi and stated "Breaking news: first picture coming from the Moon by Vikram Lander. Wow, just asking" he mentioned.

The complaint has been filed with Banahatti police station in Bagalkot district. The Hindu organisations have charged that the post by Prakash Raj was mocking Chandrayaan-3 mission and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

The complainants have demanded immediate action on the actor. Following the post going viral, Prakash was slammed by Hindu organisations and supporters of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The people questioned him for mocking the most ambitious space mission of the country and also opined that without reason Prakash is ridiculing PM Modi.

Following the developments, Prakash on Tuesday maintained that, "Attention: dear unacademy trolls and godi media who only know one chaiwala.. proudly presenting.. ever inspiring our own malayali chaiwala since 1960s... if you want to be educated please read." He had also given a link to an article titled, "Neil Armstrong And the Malayali on the moon". — IANS

Banned but very much in use: Tinted glass panes

The city traffic police have recorded 51 cases this year for using black film or other materials on vehicles. Though the use of black film has been banned in the city, residents say they do spot cars with tinted windows.

Supriya Mehta, a resident of Ejipura, says that she often spots tinted car windows in the city.

"I do see them around, and most of these are driven by college students. The use of black films was banned to prevent people from doing illegal things in their vehicles. The use of it has obviously drastically decreased over the years, but yet one can spot these vehicles even now," she said.

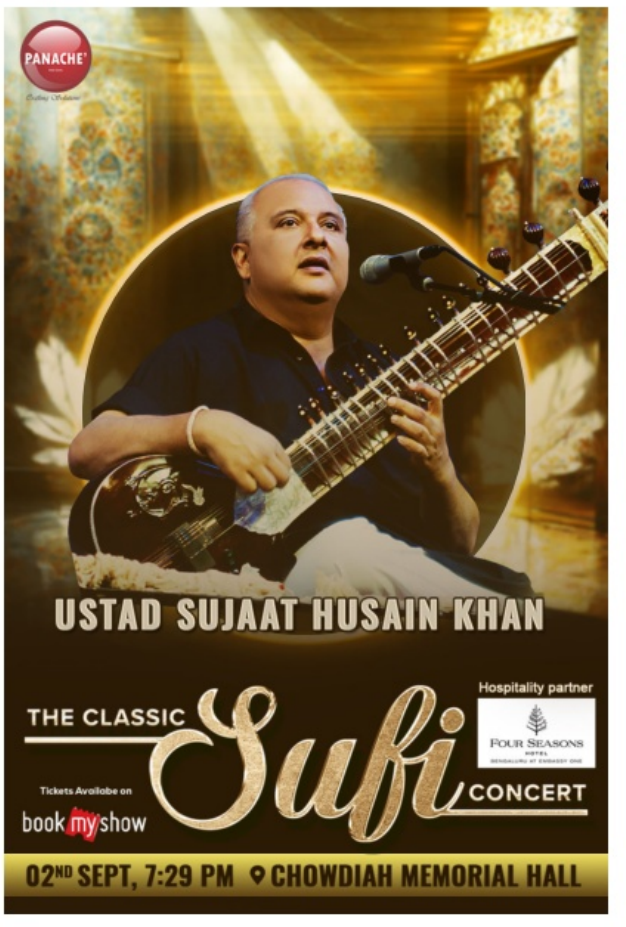
Traffic expert MN Sreehari says that earlier there were no laws for black films, but when the police caught several cases engaging in illegal activities by using black films, it was taken seriously.

"The law was introduced after people were caught doing illegal things inside their tinted cars. I won't say people who use black films are just youngsters, but the majority of violators are between the age of 20 and 40," he said.

The city police, as of June, have registered 51,66,927 traffic violations this year.

The use of any black film on windscreens, safety glasses, or side glasses of any vehicle nationwide was outlawed in 2012 by the Supreme Court.

— Ahna Prakash



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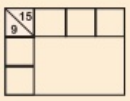
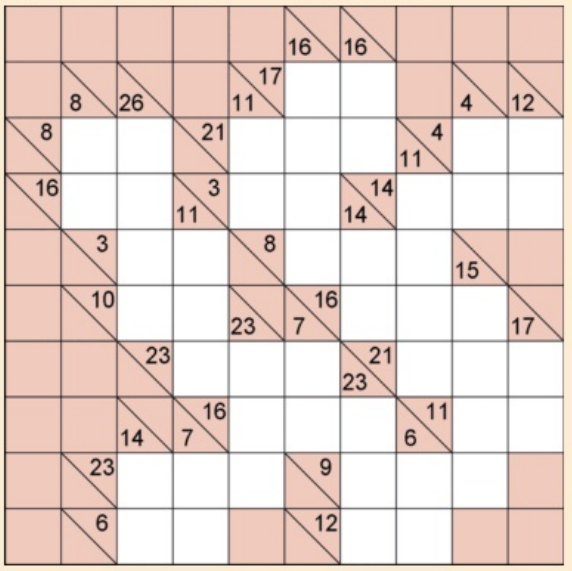
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

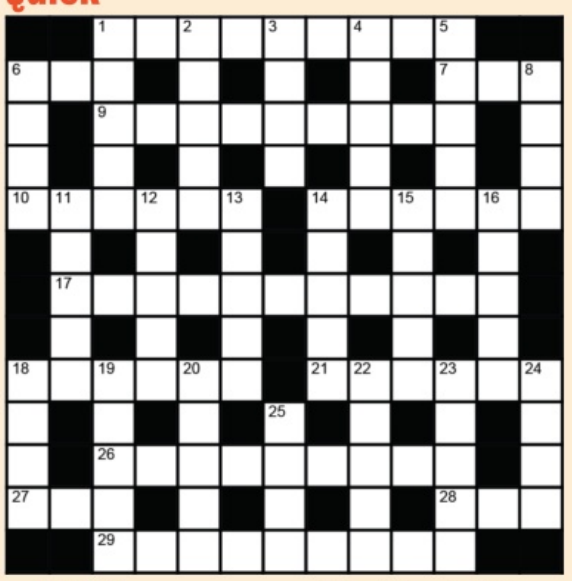


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Predicts (9)
6 River, to Juanita (3)
7 Superpower nation (3)
9 Revealing one's true feelings, pretending (7,2)
10 Sings out in carefree jovial manner (6)
14 Lower-leg joints (6)
17 Aka Muhammad Ali (7,4)
18 Archer's missiles? (6)
21 Relies on; has faith in (6)
26 Former Karnataka Chief Minister who went on to become Prime Minister of India (4,5)
27 A positive vote (3)
28 Small stocky dog (3)
29 Get up at dawn, should we say? (4,5)

DOWN

1 Leaf of paper etc. - "I fool" anagram? (5)
2 A rat-like animal (5)
3 Hard work (4)
4 Gain access to computer (3,2)
5 Mr. Shetty of Bollywood (5)
6 Floating platform (4)
8 Pub drinks (4)
11 Happen again (5)
12 Cowboy's rope (5)
13 Fits in; befits (5)
14 Item of property (5)
15 Himachal Pradesh's ___ Valley (5)
16 North African country (5)
18 Opera part (4)
19 More uncouth or boorish (5)
20 Undulations (5)
22 More green or less mature? (5)
23 Wet and slippery - "a posy" anagram? (5)
24 Cosy (4)
25 Malarial fever (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: S EQUALS N

DQUF MCOF CP SQ UQEF SH-VTEHM VQ TP VDHS H RHJF CP SHVTEHM VQ H RQRZHVQQ.

Linemaro

Hey Beautiful! That's your name, right?

Mindchow

Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom

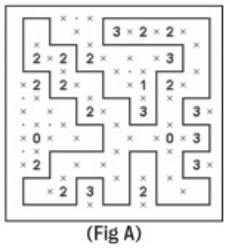
Joke of the day

Rajinikanth can start a fire by rubbing two ice cubes together

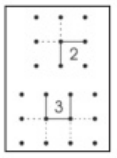
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



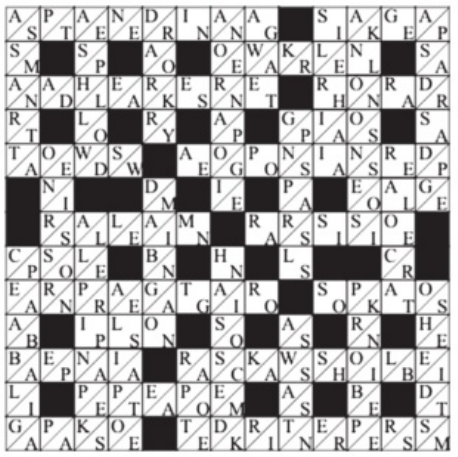
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

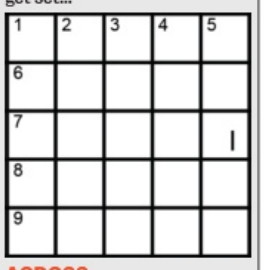
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Pawls; 6 A hove;
7 Bail I; 8 Wires;
9 Rooms

DOWN

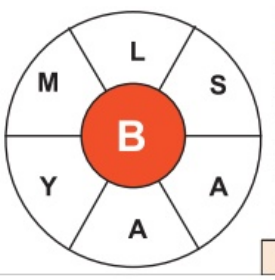
1 Whams; 2 Pool I;
3 Via so; 4 Reb we;
5 Rails

Mensapuzzle

Find five consecutive numbers below that total 22.

7396413793541765

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

07 Average; 08 Good; 10 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	3	7		6		9	1	
		1	7		9	6		
	8		3		5		2	
5								6
			1		2			
1								7
	7		6		1		9	
		9	2		4	3		
	2	4		8		5	6	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

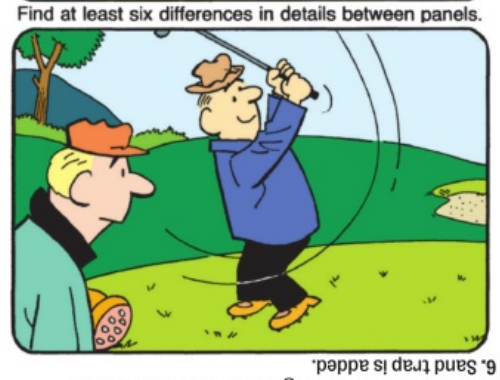
Easy = 8
3 6 7 8

Medium = 5
3 4 5 8

Hard = 40
2 7 7 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



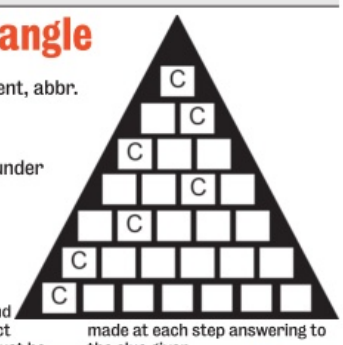
Differences: 1. Hat is different. 2. Golf bag is moved. 3. Hair is different. 4. Leg is moved. 5. Hill is added. 6. Sand trap is added.

Riddler

The following clues give definitions for world capitals. These definitions describe what the capitals (just the city) sound like they would mean.
1) This capital is something that annoys a religious figure.
2) This capital is a basic digit.
3) This capital is something you get from the sun.
4) This capital is a score for a ringer.

Alpha triangle

1 Vitamin type
2 Alternating current, abbr.
3 Metal container
4 Peruvian Indian
5 Scoring high
6 _ in: submitting under pressure
7 Sculpting



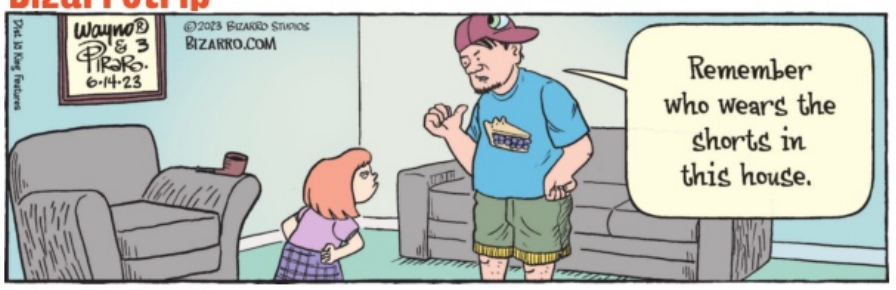
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

And now, a word from the National Council on Dictionaries:
DEMEANING
This has been a word from the National Council on Dictionaries.
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www.creators.com

Hart of the city

IN KINDERGARTEN, I LOVED SHOWING OFF MY GOLD STARS!
I LOVED THE PRAISE! I WAS ADDICTED!
SO ADDICTED THAT I WASN'T VERY NICE TO OTHER KIDS.
ALRIGHT CLASS, LINE UP FOR LUNCH!
ME FIRST!!

Crankshaft

I JUST LOVE HOW THINGS SMELL IN THE YARD AFTER A RAINSTORM.
PETRICHOR!
PETRICHOR? THAT'S WHAT THAT SMELL IS CALLED.
DOES DAD EVER SAY SOMETHING THAT REALLY SURPRISES YOU?

Mutts

IT'S BEEN SAID THAT WHEN A BUTTERFLY FLUTTERS HIS WINGS IN ONE PART OF THE WORLD, IT CAN EVENTUALLY CAUSE A HURRICANE IN ANOTHER.
WAIT UP! THEY'RE GOING TO PIN THIS ON ME!?! A HARMLESS LITTLE BUTTERFLY!!! I'M THE FALL GUY FOR THEIR CLIMATE CRISIS!?!
I THINK HUMANS NEED TO METAMORPHOSE!

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you might find yourself busy with your family and relishing the company of either family or friends. Additionally, there could be expectations of new sources of income, potentially enhancing your financial well-being. It's possible that you'll exercise control over expenditures on unnecessary items while making purchases that hold value, thereby potentially elevating your social status.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, the blessings of your elders may provide you with assistance, you might also make an effort to improve your patience. Your focus may return, thereby aiding you in achieving your goals. Both your business and domestic life could see improvements in your performance. A balance between expenditures and savings may be present, ultimately boosting your savings.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you might experience some dissatisfaction that could lead to feelings of laziness and dullness. These feelings could potentially impact the current pace of your projects or work, causing delays. Lovebirds are advised to refrain from making any significant decisions regarding marriage. Job seekers may encounter disappointments during interviews.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, your inner strength might bring you happiness, and there could be small gains in terms of investments. You could establish a positive relationship with your boss, potentially leading to promotions. Your prestige within society may increase, and there's a possibility of work-related travel in the future.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may be blessed by the moon. Your hard work could lead to attaining a favourable position. There might be an improvement in your working efficiency, subsequently boosting your confidence. Additionally, you could encounter an influential person who might provide valuable guidance for improving your life. The health of your parents also seems to be manageable at this time.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you might experience happiness as things could be somewhat improved. There's a possibility that you will plan a visit to a religious place, which might provide you with inner strength. You may also donate some amount to religious places or to charity. You may expect some overseas travel in terms of education or work. Singles may get their suitable match.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may experience feelings of unhappiness and find yourself in a dull state, which could impact your work performance, potentially causing delays in your ongoing projects. It is advisable to maintain a separation between your professional and domestic life to prevent any disruption to harmony at home. It is also recommended to avoid embarking on adventure tours or engaging in rushed driving. Lovebirds may encounter a potential breakup. Job seekers might face disappointment in their pursuit of a new job.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you might sense positive vibrations in your surroundings, indicating that things are well within your control. You may consider initiating a new business venture in partnership. You could anticipate undertaking a long-distance journey. Your relationship with your spouse is likely to strengthen, fostering harmony in your domestic life.

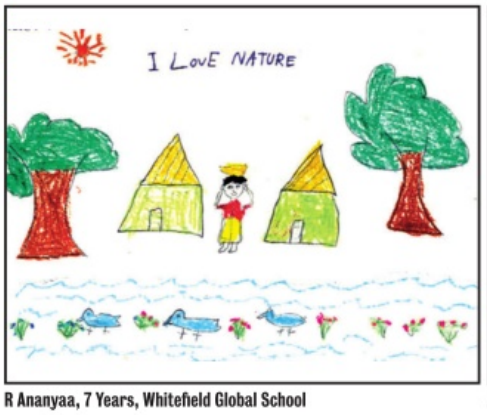
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may perform your best in the office. You may have a good bonding with the boss and you may get some new responsibilities in terms of promotions. Chronic health issues may be cured now. You may get good incentives for your work. Disputes with the siblings may be resolved now. Job seekers may find new jobs.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, children's education might occupy your time as you consider plans for their higher studies. Couples could receive positive news related to children. There could be thoughts of self-improvement and strategic planning for higher studies aimed at securing promotion in your current job. Singles may find their soul mate. Individuals associated with education, consulting, or banking fields could experience better prospects.

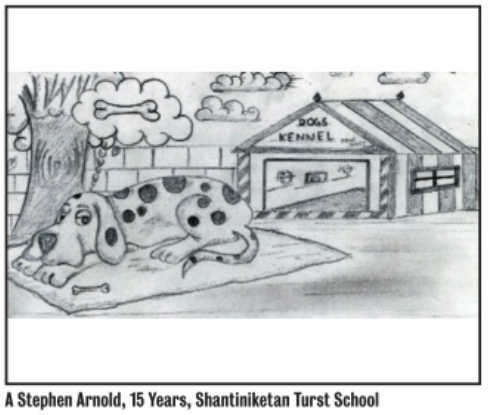
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you might experience dissatisfaction and find it challenging to fulfill your responsibilities. Your investments could result in losses. It's recommended that you carefully read documents before putting in your signature. Concerns about the health of elders may upset you. While you may be contemplating house reconstruction, it's advisable to consider postponing renovations for the time being.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you could find yourself occupied with work, leading to an expansion of your professional network. Through this network, there is a potential for securing a significant order in your business or work endeavours. You might also embark on innovative ventures in partnership. Anticipate investments coming into your business, contributing to its growth in the near future. Your emotional connection with your spouse will improve.

KIDZONE



R Ananyaa, 7 Years, Whitefield Global School



A Stephen Arnold, 15 Years, Shantiniketan Turst School

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
$5^{-2}+2^{-2}+3^{-1}+4^{-0}=2$
$5^{-2}+2^{-3}+4^{-0}$
25+8×1
25+8
33

BULL'S EYE
baby, ABYSMAL, balm, balmy, balsa, balsam, basal, lamb, samba, slab

FAST FIVE

S	P	A	W	L
W	I	S	E	R
A	L	I	B	I
H	O	V	E	A
S	M	O	O	R

QUOTE UNCODE
Home life is no more natural to us than a cage is natural to a cockatoo.

STRIKE OUT

S	P	E	E	D	I	T	R	E	S	S				
A	P	S	E		E	D	I	T	R	E	S	S		
		T	E	D	S		A	G	O	N	I	S	E	D
		R	O		Y	A		G	A	S		A		
		M	P	O		O	A	K	E	N		A		
		A	D	H	E	R	E	N	T		R	O	A	R
		L	E	T	T	I	N	G		O	N		L	
		A		L	E		T		I	N	G		O	N
		R	I	O		A		O		O		U	S	A
		F		I		E		L		O		I		E
		T	R	O	L	L	S		A	N	K	L	E	S
		E		A		U		S		U		G		
		C	A	S	S	I	U	S	C	L	A	Y		
		U		S		T		E		L		P		
		A	R	R	O	W	S		T	R	U	S	T	S
		R		U		A		O		N				
		I		D	E	V	E	G	O	W	D	A		U
		A	V	E		U		E		P		U	G	

QUICK

R	I	S	E	E	A	R	L	Y						
		E		A		U		S		U	G			
	E	A	S	I	U	S	C	L	A	Y				
	U		S		T		E		L		P			
A	R	R	O	W	S		T	R	U	S	T	S		
C	O	L		N		H		L		C				
	S	A	L	I	M		A	R	I	S	E			
		N		D		E		A		O	L	E		
T	E	D	S		A	G	O	N	I	S	E	D		
A	P	S	E		E	D	I	T	R	E	S	S		

MENSA PUZZLE
9541.

RIDDLER
1) Budapest (Buddha Pest), Hungary,
2) Quito (Key Toe), Ecuador,
3) Bern (Burn), Switzerland,
4) Belgrade (Bell Grade), Serbia and Montenegro

SUDOKU

3	2	4	9	8	7	5	6	1
6	1	9	2	5	4	3	7	8
8	7	5	6	3	1	4	9	2
1	4	8	5	9	6	2	3	7
7	6	3	1	4	2	8	5	9
5	9	2	8	7	3	1	4	6
9	8	6	3	1	5	7	2	4
4	5	1	7	2	9	6	8	3
2	3	7	4	6	8	9	1	5

ALPHA TRIANGLE
C, AC, Can, Inca, Acting, Caving, Carving.

GO FIGURE
Easy
6 + 3 + 7 − 8 = 8
Medium
8 − 5 x 3 − 4 = 5
Hard
7 x 5 − 2 + 7 = 40

LOOP

KAKURO

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Farhan's confidence
Farhan Akhtar, the director of "Don 3," has responded to the mixed reactions surrounding Ranveer Singh taking on the iconic role. Akhtar expressed confidence in Singh's ability as an actor

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SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Sizzling moves

Prepare for a cinematic treat as the pan-Indian sensation, "Maarakaastra," featuring the fierce action queen Malashri, gears up to captivate moviegoers. This much-anticipated film is set to release in Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, and Hindi, promising a cross-cultural spectacle. The excitement reached new heights at the SRV Theatre in Malleswaram, where a special song unveiling took place

– the electrifying "Glamaru Gaadi Bandaithu Noodi."

The vivacious Heena Panchal, renowned for her sizzling item numbers "Balam Bambai" and "Bevda Bevda Zalo Mi Tight," dazzles with her moves in the fiery item song "Glamaru Gaadi Bandaithu Noodi," alongside a troupe of talented junior artistes. Ananya Bhat's vocals, coupled with the lyrics penned by Manju Kavi, who also crafted the music, infuse the song with an irresistible rhythm. Guided by the skilled choreographer and creative mastermind, Dhanu Master, the song is poised to elevate the movie's allure. This captivating composition was unveiled by none other than A2 Music.

Behind the scenes, the visionary Gurumurthy Sunami, a trailblazer despite physical challenges, helms the director's chair for the first time in the Sandalwood industry with the sensational "Maarakaastra."

Talwar saga

The much-awaited movie "Talwar," starring Dharma Keerthiraj, has been granted a UA certificate by the Central Board of Film Certification. The muhurat function for "Talwar" took place in September 2019, with Challenging Star Darshan inaugurating the shoot by sounding the clapboard. The film's release is anticipated in the near future.

Dharma Keerthiraj, known for his versatile roles, steps into new territory as the antagonist in 'Talwar.' This marks his first portrayal as a villain, with Aditi paired opposite him.

The multi-talented Raghava Murali not only penned the script, screenplay, and dialogues but also directed the film. Murali previously directed Dharma Keerthiraj in the Kannada movie "Mumtaz." The uniqueness of "Talwar" lies in the intriguing character portrayed by Jayaram Karthik. Accomplished actor Avinash, recognised for his role in "Maja Bharath," also plays a pivotal part in the film. The narrative conveys a poignant message to society: while two individuals in love may suffer if separated, resorting to violence for sustenance can inflict pain upon numerous families.

Anticipation builds as the teaser of "Talwar" is slated for release in the first week of September.

THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY

It's not every day that a big blockbuster film comes knocking at an actor's door and when it does, they rarely turn it down. But as the tabloids tell us, there are some exceptions. From Ameesha Patel rejecting offers to star in Bollywood films like Chalte Chalte and Tere Naam to Matt Damon rejecting the lead role in Avatar, here's a list of actors who have regretted turning down some of the biggest films ever made. Take a look... — ETimes

Shah Rukh Khan

In a 2009 interview with Bombay Times, Bollywood Badshah Shah Rukh Khan shocked fans when he revealed that he turned down Danny Boyle's Oscar-winning film 'Slumdog Millionaire'. He admitted that he felt bad about his decision, but didn't completely regret it because of the story and its implication. Shah Rukh said that he didn't do the film because the character of the host was a 'cheat'. At the time, the actor had done a similar hosting stint, which made him think that the audience would believe that he 'cheats' on the reality game show. He, however, did admit that Slumdog Millionaire "was a great film".

Ameesha Patel

Ameesha Patel is currently riding high on the success of her film 'Gadar 2'. The actress is making a splash at the box office after over a decade. But, had she said yes to a handful of films she was offered, we might have just seen her around at the box office more often. In an interview with ETimes, the actress revealed that she had turned down several offers over the years that included movies with Shah Rukh Khan, Salman Khan and Sanjay Dutt. Ameesha explained, "I turned them down because of date issues, so I couldn't regret it. Chalte Chalte was one of my films, Munna Bhai MBBS, there were a lot of reasons I couldn't do those films."

Matt Damon

By turning down James Cameron's Avatar, Matt Damon not only lost a role of a lifetime but also lost over $250 million in profits! The director was so determined to get the actor on board for his film that he even offered Matt 10% of the film's box office revenue. However, according to the actor, he had to turn down the lead role and the lucrative deal in order to star in the Bourne franchise. Matt has since never held back on his regret about turning down the role. He even later went on record to share his disappointment in taking up the spy franchise.

Josh Hartnett

Did you know Josh Hartnett turned down the role of Batman in Christopher Nolan's Dark Knight series? The actor revealed that his fears about being typecast drove him to opt out of the film that went on to become a blockbuster hit and eventually be declared as one of the best Batman trilogies of all time. He also revealed that watching Christian Bale move on from the superhero role to bag some Oscar-nominated film, made him question his choices.When Nolan came knocking to play a supporting role in Oppenheimer, the actor immediately agreed.

Kareena Kapoor

Kareena Kapoor Khan considers herself one of the only actresses in the business who can boast about giving films to her peers and fellow B-Town actresses. Besides the many films the star turned down, she also rejected Sanjay Leela Bhansali's Ram Leela. The actress confessed in an interview that she was 'mad' at herself for opting out of the film and taking up Gori Tere Pyaar Mein instead. She explained that she often signs films and then chooses to bow out when it 'feels wrong'.